MARVEL

X-MEN

BLOOD HUNT

MAGIK

1

ONE-SHOT

ALLEN
HERVÁS
NITRO

RATED **T+**

JEFFREY VEREGGE

Jeffrey Veregge, 50, passed away April 12, 2024, after a courageous battle with lupus. A member of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Veregge created a style he called "Salish geek," which combined Native American art, graphic design and comic-book heroes. His striking covers on *Red Wolf* and *Heroes Reborn* stood out from everything else on comic shelves. In 2018, The Smithsonian opened Veregge's exhibition "Of Gods and Heroes," which included his epic mural for the Museum of the Native American in New York. His work on comic covers and in public spaces leave a fantastic legacy that will long be remembered. Our hearts go out to his family and friends.

BORN WITH ABILITIES BEYOND THOSE OF NORMAL HUMANS, THE MUTANT SUPER HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN USE THEIR UNIQUE POWERS TO PROTECT THE WORLD—A WORLD NOW UNDER THREAT BY A VAMPIRE INVASION! A GROUP OF VAMPIRES KNOWN AS THE **STRUCTURE** ENGINEERED A SIMULTANEOUS ATTACK ACROSS THE GLOBE, USING **DARKFORCE** ENERGY TO BLOT OUT THE SUN. NOW VAMPIRES HAVE BEEN UNLEASHED UPON HUMANITY AND MUTANTKIND ALIKE, CAUSING VIOLENT CHAOS.

BLOOD HUNT X-MEN MAGIK

1

Writer **ASHLEY ALLEN**

Artist **JESÚS HERVÁS**

Color Artist **YEN NITRO**

Letterer **VC's TRAVIS LANHAM**

Cover Artist
ROD REIS

Variant Cover Artists
ELENA CASAGRANDE & TRÍONA FARRELL; PEACH MOMOKO; IVÁN TALAVERA

Design
JAY BOWEN

Assistant Editor
NOAH SHARMA

Editor
DARREN SHAN

Conductor of X
TOM BREVOORT

Editor in Chief
C.B. CEBULSKI

X-MEN CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

© 2024 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

SIBERIA. THEN.

Back when I was easily enamored by childish things--***and childish fears***--my father would tell me stories of the ***bogatyrs.***

Of these warrior knights, ***Ilya Muromets*** was my favorite. After all, we almost shared the same name.

A sickly Ilya was confined to bed for 33 years. However, one day, he was visited by two strangers.

"You ***must*** keep going, Ilya," they urged. "Get up--for you are ***completely cured!***"

And with that, he was miraculously healed, ***gifted*** with super-strength.

With his life renewed--***with his new start***--he dedicated himself to fighting the monsters threatening the land.

Ilya became a hero who could ***banish*** darkness, with the strength to promise everything would be okay.

My father would then close the book and tell me: "Be ***brave,*** Illyana--

"--you *must* keep going.

SIBERIA. NOW.

"Even when the evils around you seem *insurmountable.*"

I can't! *Sob* I can't--

No. You keep running, Anya! We don't stop--

Aargh!!!

Nikolai!

How funny. She thinks she can help.

Let him go, you vampire!

How about this? I'll be nice. I'll give you *one* try to save him.

But only *one*. You've caused enough trouble. It's time to come back home.

While we *appreciate* your enthusiasm, we can't have you running before your hunt begins--

?!

Am I interrupting something?

Another human! Get her! Don't let her escape!

Watch out!

Oh no, *whatever* will I do?

LATER.

It's nice to meet you, Anya. My name's Illyana.

Are you *really sure* you're okay?

Barely a scratch. The real question is, are *you* two okay?

No. How is any of this fine? Our village has been *over-run* with vampires.

Our parents *barely* gave us time to escape, and we just--

They destroyed our home. They're *hunting* us for sport.

I know. You don't have to explain. I was visiting my hometown to clear my head when this all started.

But even before that, I watched my last home be destroyed. My family scattered.* So I *promise* I won't let yours be. I'll *make sure*--

*See recent issues of *X-Men!* --DS

Help me! *Help*--

Aaaaahhh!!!

RRRRRIIIPP

SNARL

That's *Irina.* Niko--that's Babushka Irina! ***Stop*** it, Irina! What are you doing?!

Stop it--

Shut *it,* will ya?

Ha! I'll never get over a fledgling's first hunt. They're so hungry.

Welcome *home,* brats.

Time to play.

No! *No!* We *can't* be in the hunt! You've only ever chosen the *adults!*

Stay behind me.

Anya! Niko!

Let my children go! Take *me* instead!

Don't worry! It'll be your turn soon enough!

Run, little humans. *Run* as fast as you can.

Get out of here!

Dad!

Quiet.

SNAP

I leave for but a moment and you return to savagery--to acting like *animals.*

What is the point of these *blackened skies* if we stay in the shadows, lunging at any scrap thrown at us?

Our lord, *Varnae,* would be displeased that you waste this opportunity--this blessing--to become something *more.*

That you *squander* his gift of eternal darkness.

Disgusting.

What a *waste* of good prey.

Men! Who are we as a people? We are not monsters. We are hunters. Artisans. We are *evolution.*

These hunts are a reward and *celebration* for the time we've spent in hiding. Let us *savor* our meal.

Let us *rejoice* in this new age.

ILYA! ILYA! ILYA!

Don't worry, children. I reward those who do well in battle. You will be released into the forest and get a fighting chance to--

Well, not escape. ***No***, that won't do. But if you survive, we will ***welcome*** you in with open arms.

How ***kind*** of you.

Ilya, right? Sounds familiar. Any relation to Muromets?

Ah, it always ***pleases*** me to meet an acolyte. The story had some falsehoods, but I didn't see much of a reason to correct it.

After all, miracles don't exist, child. ***Magic*** does.

How else do you think I received this gift?

If you prove yourself, maybe you will return and be made ***anew*** as well.

But run *fast*, little humans.

You don't have your *sun* to hide behind anymore.

You don't stop. You keep running and hide.

But what about you?

You should worry more about yourselves, pests.

SLAM!

Funny. I could say the same to you.

Let me introduce myself. My name is Illyana Rasputin. And I was forged in the fires of a hell far worse than here.

But to you monsters--you may call me

MAGIK!

What a poor decision to cross my path.

For *my hunt* has finally begun. And you are *first* on my list.

CLANG

Don't worry. I'll at least try to give you *vampires* a fighting chance.

Too afraid to face me? How *pathetic.*

I didn't manifest my *Soulsword* just for show.

You know, I heard rumors of this village. But I couldn't pinpoint the exact location until you were *nice* enough to capture me.

Just like now.

Both times were a *mistake.*

You should have *never* let me in.

And you call yourselves *monsters.*

Too easy.

Know that just because my Soulsword cuts through magic does not mean I lack my own.

FWHSS

AAAH!

She's a *witch!* She's one of them!

Sigh

...Stay hidden. Don't move until I come back.

ILYA'S STRONGHOLD.

Did you *see* their faces?! How surprised they looked?

What else can you expect from a bunch of *lowly* humans?

What good are they for if not to hunt--?

TSSCH

Correction. What good are you *vampires* for if not to hunt? Not that it *will* be much of a pursuit.

After all, this "*lowly*" human's X-Gene allows her to teleport to wherever you may run.

THUNK

Your *turn*, Ilya.

So, you did return. What a *pleasant* surprise.

But can you keep up, little human?

Your *lackeys* thought so--

%@%#!

Oof!

SWIN

KA

@%$%. Why are you so fast?

Speed is but one of my vampiric gifts. Your death will be swift.

Oh, ***get*** over yourself.

Brilliant. That's the ***closest*** anyone's come in years.

Finally, a ***worthy*** kill.

!!!

With time, child, you might actually have been able to--

ISSCH

What were you saying? I needed time?

Good thing we have plenty. I'm going to *enjoy* taking you apart.

Slowly.

What a pathetic excuse for a king. You would never have lasted a day ruling Limbo.

I sat in a @%#& cage for two hours just for you to run away?

Fine. Let's see who's really faster.

My portals are static. But that does not mean I have to be. *Gravity* is my friend-- despite how it *tears* at my body.

Getting closer and closer. *Accelerating* toward my prey.

SLAM!

Until I hit my mark with the *force* of a supernova.

Ah, too slow.

Hmm?

Please tell me this isn't a *situation* where by killing your leader I'm now the "de facto" queen.

Nothing? *Really?* Why does no one ever get my jokes?

Fine. Let's just get this *over* with.

Run, little vampires. Don't waste your head start.

Three.

Two.

One.

In my ***darkest hours*** in Limbo, I would go back to my father's words. The storybook we shared.

In my mind, Ilya would become ***Illyana,*** and I would think of my ***future.***

CRUNCH CRUNCH CRUNCH

"With her life renewed--***with her new start***--she would dedicate herself to fighting the monsters threatening the land.

"Even if those around her thought she was ***one.***

There you are.

"She would become the hero who could ***banish darkness*** with the strength to promise--

Everything's okay.

"She would keep going. She would defeat the evils that seemed insurmountable.

"She would ***rise*** above and reunite with her family.

"She would smile at them, ***finally*** and triumphantly be able to say--"

Let's go ***home.***

END.

BLOOD HUNT

CHECKLIST

JUNE

- ■ **BLOOD HUNT** #3
- ■ **BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND** #3
- ■ DRACULA: BLOOD HUNT #2
- ■ X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – JUBILEE #1
- ■ UNION JACK THE RIPPER: BLOOD HUNT #2
- ■ DOCTOR STRANGE #16
- ■ VENGEANCE OF THE MOON KNIGHT #6
- ■ FANTASTIC FOUR #21
- ■ WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #1
- ■ BLOOD HUNTERS #2
- ■ STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT #2
- ■ MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #21
- ■ VENOM #34
- ■ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: BLOOD HUNT #2
- ■ AVENGERS #15
- ■ BLACK PANTHER: BLOOD HUNT #2
- ■ MIDNIGHT SONS: BLOOD HUNT #2
- ■ **BLOOD HUNT** #4
- ■ **BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND** #4
- ■ X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – MAGIK #1
- □ WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #2

JULY

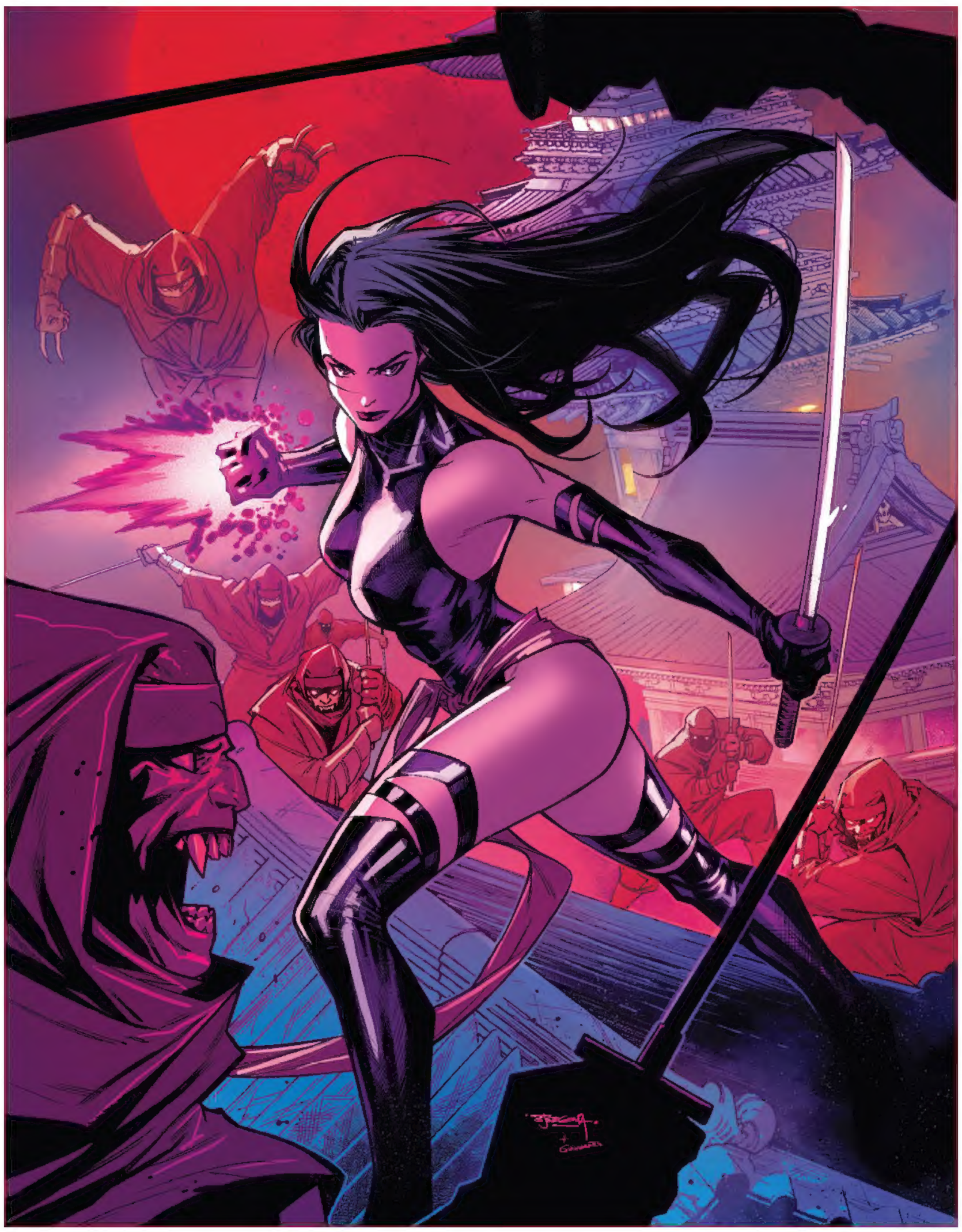
- □ BLACK PANTHER: BLOOD HUNT #3
- □ BLOOD HUNTERS #3
- □ DOCTOR STRANGE #17
- □ DRACULA: BLOOD HUNT #3
- □ X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – PSYLOCKE #1
- □ MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #22
- □ WEREWOLF BY NIGHT: BLOOD HUNT #1
- □ AVENGERS #16
- □ HULK: BLOOD HUNT #1
- □ UNION JACK THE RIPPER: BLOOD HUNT #3
- □ WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #3
- □ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: BLOOD HUNT #3
- □ BLOOD HUNTERS #4
- □ X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – LAURA KINNEY THE WOLVERINE #1
- □ **BLOOD HUNT** #5
- □ **BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND** #5
- □ FANTASTIC FOUR #22
- □ MIDNIGHT SONS: BLOOD HUNT #3
- □ STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT #3
- □ VENGEANCE OF THE MOON KNIGHT #7
- □ WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #4

NEXT:

BLOOD HUNT X-MEN PSYLOCKE

1

After serving on the front lines in the war against Orchis, Kwannon is enjoying some much-deserved downtime with her new lover, Greycrow. But when darkness falls across Japan, **PSYLOCKE** will wield her psionic blade against bloodsucking creatures of legend and face a foe unlike any she's ever seen. An all-new villain emerges in the mayhem of **BLOOD HUNT**!



EMAIL US AT **OFFICEX@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR MESSAGES **"OKAY TO PRINT"**
FOR A CHANCE TO SEE THEM ANSWERED IN FUTURE ISSUES!

KAMIC RIDER
MARIKA